Committee after visiting some stations have been received.

(b) and (c) The deficiencies pointed out in the inspection reports regarding passenger amenities and suggestions for providing additional amenities have been sent to the railways concerned for taking remedial action. Maintenance of law and order on the railways is the responsibility of the State Governments. In the confernece of Home secretaries and heads of Government of Railway Police of States held on 28.8.1998, this subject was discussed and the State Governments were requested to ensure better security to the passengers.

Railway Division at Rourkela

753. MISS FARIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sambalpur and Khurda are the two Railway Divisions under the newly started East Coast Railway, with Bhubaneswar as its headquarters and there is no Railway Division from Chakradharpur to Sambalpur, if so, whether Government have any proposal to start a new Railway Division at Rourkela under the East Coast Railway; if so, the details thereof and the time schedule for starting of the Division; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Khurda Road, Sambalpur and Watair Divisions were proposed to be part of East Coast railway with headquarters at Bhubaneswar. The territorial jurisdiction of East Coast Railway has not yet been finalised. The issue was examined but it was not found feasible to set up a Divisional Office at Rourkela.

(b) Does not arise.

Conversion of Narrow Gauge lines in Himachal Pradesh

754. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals for laying some rail lines and converting the narrow gauge lines into meter/broad gauge lines in Himachal Pradesh are pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details of those railway projects; and

(c) the details of steps taken to approve those projects and to start construction work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposals for laying new lines and conversion of narrow gauge lines into broad gauge and the action taken to approve the projects is as under:

(i) Kalka-Parwanoo (New Line):

The work is included in the budget to be taken up after obtaining the clearance from Planning Commission. They have been approached and the work can be taken up once their approval has been recieved.

(ii) Bilaspur-Bhanupali-Beri (New Line):

The Survey for this line has been completed. The work is proposed to be carried out by the Satluj Valley Railway Corporation with participation by the Cement Factories, H.P. Govt. and Railways. The modalities for setting up the Corporation and for taking up the work are being coordinated by H.P. Government.

(iii) Pathankot-Joginder Nagar (Gauge Conversion)

Survey has been taken up and further consideration of the proposal will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

गांधीनगर में रेल टर्मिनल

755. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार अहमदाबाद रेलवे स्टेशन का यात्री-बोझ कम करने के लिए कुछ प्रमुख गाड़ियों और लोकल गाड़ियों का ठहराव गांधीनगर रेलवे स्टेशन में करवाने पर विचार कर रही है;